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Another White House Parley

Mansfield Fears 10-Year War

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Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield, (Mont.), citing what he called the "grim facts" of the Viet Nam conflict warns the war "may go on for four or five or even ten years."

His remarks signaled a new round of congressional debate over the deepening war in southeast Asia as President Johnson conferred again today with his top military advisers on the "new and serious" decisions he soon must make about boosting America's combat effort in Viet Nam.

Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara, who returned at dawn yesterday from a five-day fact-finding trip to Viet Nam, brought back recommendations for a bigger U.S. troop commitment.

In his statement, Sen. Mansfield said Americans are in for an "ordeal of indefinite duration and increasing sacrifice" in Viet Nam. He called for a new Geneva conference to discuss the crisis.

"It is better to face up to this problem than to ignore it in the belief that it will wash away at the end of the monsoons. The time for wishful thinking is past; the time for accepting the reality is now. Indeed it has been time for quite a while," he said.

"We are in, not for a summer of pain and difficulty, but for an ordeal of indefinite duration and increasing sacrifice which will persist until the problem can be solved at the conference table."

Senate GOP Leader Everett M. Dirksen said yesterday he would welcome a broader senate discussion of Viet Nam policy but only "up to a point." He endorsed the idea of "restraint" in discussions.

Sen. Dirksen told a news

conference that some senators with "deep convictions" are inclined to talk "often unrestrainedly" and that their words are read and quoted by communist propagandists abroad.

Mr. Johnson, Defense Secretary McNamara, Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Henry Cabot Lodge, U.S. Ambassador-designate to Viet Nam, Central Intelligence Agency Director William F. Raborn Jr. and other top officials yesterday conducted what was described as "thorough and penetrating review" of all but the military aspects of the Viet Nam situation.

White House press secretary Bill D. Moyers said the review centered on such aspects of the war as the operation of the U.S. intelligence apparatus, the role of the U.S. Information Agency and economic problems linked with the pacification and reconstruction programs in South Viet Nam.

NO HURRY

He indicated that any Presidential decisions on the war may not be made known immediately. "I am sure he (Mr. Johnson) is going to spend a great deal of time in the next few days on this subject," Mr. Moyers said.

It was considered likely that Mr. Johnson would call in Democratic and Republican congressional leaders to discuss any Reserve and National Guard call-up.

Meanwhile, roving U. S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman left Moscow today amid speculation on his two meetings with Soviet Premier Alexei Kosygin failed to budge the Russians from their tough stand on Viet Nam.